

HEADACHE—Diagnosis and Treatment—Second Edition—Robert E. Ryan, B.S., M.D., M.S. (in Otolaryngology), F.A.C.S., St. Louis University School of Medicine. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1957. 421 pages, \$6.75.

The author has a consuming interest in headache and feels that this subject should have considerable emphasis. He has tried to differentiate his problem into a great variety of forms. The result is put out in 56 chapters comprising a book of 421 pages.

The presentation is rambling, repetitious and personalized. The combination of this with numerous and recurring quotations from and reference to personal medical literature makes one feel that this book is blown up to too large a size.

Many of the chapters have summaries at the end. These summaries might well have constituted entire chapters, while one good differential table for diagnosis and another for therapy could have taken the place of many pages.

We do not know any reason to dedicate a separate chapter to each variant of headache, such as Chapter 10, Migraine, Chapter 11, Abdominal Migraine, Chapter 12, Ophthalmic Migraine, with repetition of the theory, diagnosis and treatment each time. A similar situation exists in Chapters 13 on Tension Headache and 14 on Generalized Vasodilating Headache—in which the treatment listed is practically the same.

The second edition introduces several new chapters, including those on tranquilizing drugs and histamine. These are already adequately covered in the various chapters on specific kinds of headache and, unfortunately, once again constitute repetition.

This work represents the personalized experience of one individual with one group of medical syndromes. As such, it may be of interest to the student of this subject. But it should have been a much smaller book.

EDGAR WAYBURN, M.D.

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CLINICAL OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY—March, 1958—A Quarterly Book Series—Volume I, Number 1—Medical Problems in Pregnancy—Edited by Curtis J. Lund, M.D.; and **Management of Endocrine Problems**—Edited by Allen C. Barnes, M.D., Paul B. Hoeber, Inc., Medical Book Department of Harper & Brothers, 49 East 33rd Street, New York 16, N. Y., 1958. 288 pages, \$18.00 per year for four consecutive numbers issued quarterly.

As stated in the publisher's note this is the first of a series of books designed to fill a gap between the journals with their reports of original work and the textbooks with their complete coverage of a subject. Each volume is to contain pertinent discussions on two main topics. This first volume is devoted to Medical Problems in Pregnancy, edited by Curtis J. Lund, and Management of Endocrine Problems, edited by Allan C. Barnes. The editors have chosen phases of their subjects which are of great interest to all who practice obstetrics and gynecology, be they general practitioners or specialists, though it is to the former group that this publication is directed especially. Outstanding contributors have been chosen, usually men who have had a special interest in the topic about which they have been asked to write. The table of contents would give an excellent idea of the scope and nature of this volume but would be tedious to read. Representative examples are: From the symposium on Medical Problems in Pregnancy, Anemia in Pregnancy by Roy G. Holly, Pregnancy and Heart Disease by Curtis Lund, Pregnancy and Viral Hepatitis by Laurence G. Roth, Tuberculosis and Pregnancy by John McKelvey and Poliomyelitis Complicating Pregnancy by Paula Horn. From the symposium on Endocrine Problems, good examples are: Diagnostic Aids by Irving Rothchild, Dysfunctional Bleed-

ing by Emil Holmstrom, Threatened and Habitual Abortion by M. Edward Davis and Adrenogenital Syndrome and Adrenal Hyperplasia by James T. Bradbury.

It would be impossible to review the details of the various chapters; suffice it to say that for the most part their contents reflect current authoritative information and viewpoints. Since some subjects are controversial and the management of some conditions remains unsettled it is inevitable that we have presented the individual's own particular point of view. Usually other points of view of importance have been mentioned also, so that real bias seems singularly lacking. Actually this is what one would expect from such a fine list of contributors.

I should also like to add that these chapters have the very great virtue of reasonable brevity. The entire volume contains 288 pages. The type is rather large and easy to read. A number of contributors have included very helpful illustrations and diagrams in their chapters.

It is my feeling that this volume represents the beginning of an excellent series of symposia which I would expect to be popular indeed.

DANIEL G. MORTON, M.D.

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OCULAR ALLERGY—Frederick H. Theodore, M.D., Associate Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology, New York University Post-Graduate Medical School; Abraham Schlossman, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, College of Medicine, State University of New York. With Chapters by William B. Sherman, M.D., and Robert S. Coles, M.D. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Mount Royal and Guilford Avenues, Baltimore 2, Md., 1958. 420 pages, \$12.00.

Ocular allergy is a very comprehensive and new approach to a very protean subject.

The book contains 399 pages of subject matter divided into 21 chapters. There are 62 references and an excellent index.

The book is well documented and extremely well written. The diagnosis is followed by the present day accepted form of treatment.

The book covers practically all the present day concepts of etiology in eye pathology because an allergic factor can be found in practically all of them.

An excellent discussion of the granulomatous and non-granulomatous diseases is followed by modern day therapy and its dangers and advantages.

A book of this type has not been published for several decades and should be of especial interest to practicing ophthalmologists.

ALFRED R. ROBBINS, M.D.

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CEREBROSPINAL FLUID—Production, Circulation and Absorption—Ciba Foundation Symposium—G. E. W. Wolstenholme, O.B.E., M.A., M.B., B.Ch., and Cecilia M. O'Connor, B.Sc., editors for the Ciba Foundation. Little, Brown and Company, Boston, 1958. 335 pages, with 141 illustrations, \$9.00.

This book records the proceedings of a symposium on the cerebrospinal fluid held under the auspices of the Ciba Foundation. A group of noted authorities in the field from Great Britain, Europe, and the United States presented papers in their particular field of knowledge, and the group entered into a discussion of the material presented. Much of the content is of such a specialized nature as to be somewhat out of the scope of the practicing physician, nor is the final answer to the problem to be found in the book. It does form, however, an excellent source of material for an appraisal of present knowledge of the subject, with critical evaluation by experts, and should certainly be available to all neurologists.

HENRY NEWMAN, M.D.